

CS409m: Introduction to Cryptography

Lecture 02 (01/Aug/25)

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Announcements

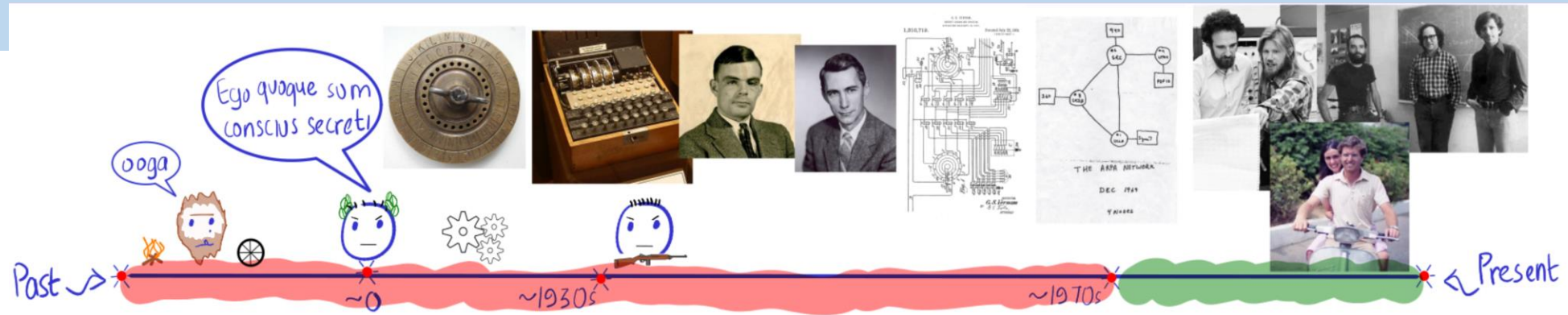
Administrivia...

- Venue change: CC103 to CC101
- Join WhatsApp group (link shared on Moodle)
- TA session: Fridays, 19:30-21:00, CC101

Coursework


- Hands-on Exercise 0 uploaded on [Moodle](#)
- Assignment 1 will be uploaded today on [webpage](#)/[Moodle](#)
 - Ungraded, but you will get some questions in the quiz!

Recall from Last Lecture



- Classical vs modern cryptography
- **Guiding principles** for modern cryptography:
 - Formally define **threat model** M : identify **security goal** and **adversary's capabilities**
 - Construct scheme
 - Provide rigorous **security proof**
 - Rely on precise, **well-studied assumption**
- Classical ciphers: shift cipher, substitution cipher, polyalphabetic shift cipher
- Saw why these are considered **insecure** by modern standards
 - The ciphertext leaks some information about the message

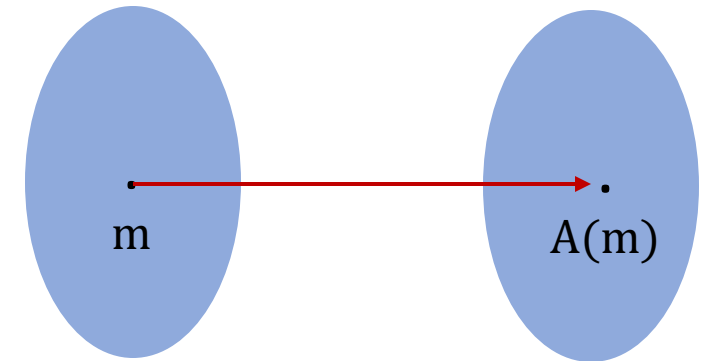
Plans for Today's Lecture

1. Randomized Algorithms 
2. Basic Theory
 - Definition and Background
 - Law of Total Probability, Conditional Probability, Expectation and Variance
3. Concentration Inequalities
 - Union Bound, Markov's inequality, Chebyshev's inequality, Chernoff bounds
4. Misc

Motivation: Randomized Algorithms

Deterministic Algorithm

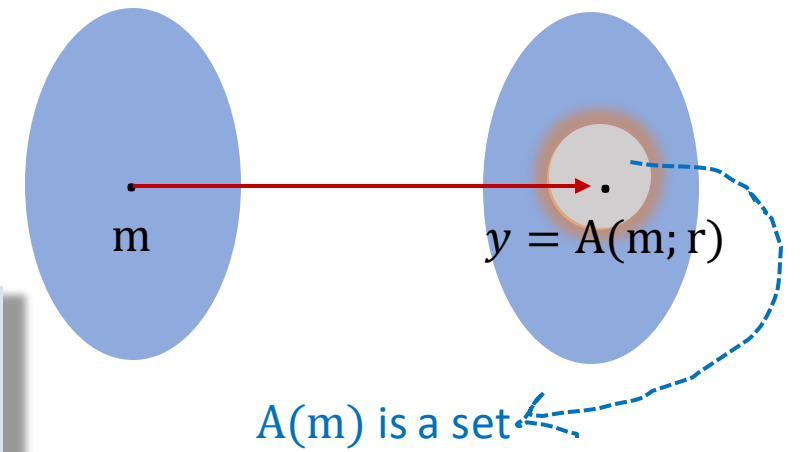
For each input m , A outputs a fixed value y from the codomain
 $y := A(m)$



Randomized Algorithm



For each input m , A additionally uses a **randomly picked**
 $r \in_R \{0,1\}^n$ and outputs $y := A(m; r)$.
($A(m)$ is now a set instead of a single value)



Why?

- Randomized algorithms can be **faster** than deterministic ones
- In cryptography, randomization will be necessary for **security**
 - Key generation and encryption will be randomized

BASIC THEORY

Definition and Background

Ω : finite set of possible outcomes, called **sample space** of the experiment

Example: Coin flip
 $\Omega = \{H, T\}$

Definition 1

A **probability distribution over Ω** is a function $P: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ such that $\sum_{x \in \Omega} P(x) = 1$.
(sum of all p_i 's over all possible outcomes in Ω is 1)

Example: Coin flip
 $P(H) = P(T) = 1/2$

Definition 2

An **event** is any subset $A \subseteq \Omega$. The probability of an event A is $\Pr_P[A] = \sum_{x \in A} P(x)$.

Definition 3

Two events A and B are said to be **independent** if $\Pr[A \cap B] = \Pr[A] \cdot \Pr[B]$.

Examples

Example 1: Tossing a coin n times

$$\Omega = \{(\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n) : \omega_i \in \{H, T\}\}$$

The event that the first flip is heads is represented as:

$$A_{1,H} = \{(H, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n) : \omega_i \in \{H, T\}\}$$

The event that the first flip is tails is represented as:

$$A_{1,T} = \{(T, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n) : \omega_i \in \{H, T\}\}$$

Let $A_{i,H}$ be the event that the i-th flip is H, and similarly define $A_{i,T}$. Suppose coin is fair ($P[H] = P[T]$) and each toss is independent, then we have: for a fixed $\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n$

$$\begin{aligned} P((\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)) &= \Pr[A_{1,\omega_1} \cap \dots \cap A_{n,\omega_n}] \\ &= \Pr[A_{1,\omega_1}] \dots \Pr[A_{n,\omega_n}] && \text{(by independence)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \dots \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2^n} && \text{(by fairness)} \end{aligned}$$

Definition and Background

Definition 4

A **(real-valued) random variable** is a function $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. In Example 1, the number of heads is a random variable represented by the function $X((\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)) = \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i$.

Definition 5

Two discrete real-valued random variables, X and Y , are said to be **independent** if

$$\Pr[X = x, Y = y] = \Pr[X = x] \cdot \Pr[Y = y], \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The random variables X_1, \dots, X_n are said to be **jointly independent** if

$$\Pr[X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n] = \prod_{i=1}^n \Pr[X_i = x_i], \quad \forall x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$$

Examples

Example 2: Jointly independent random variables

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i^{\text{th}} \text{ coin lands H} \\ 0, & \text{if } i^{\text{th}} \text{ coin lands T} \end{cases}$$

The random variables X_1, \dots, X_n are **jointly independent**.

Example 3: Pairwise Independent but not jointly independent random variables

$\Omega = \{(\omega_1, \omega_2) : \omega_i \in \{0,1\}\}$. Consider uniform distribution P over Ω .

$$X(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \omega_1 \quad (\text{outcome of first flip})$$

$$Y(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \omega_2 \quad (\text{outcome of second flip})$$

$$Z(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \omega_1 \oplus \omega_2 \quad (\text{XOR of both flips})$$

$\forall x, y, z \in \{0,1\}, \Pr[X = x] = \Pr[Y = y] = \Pr[Z = z] = 1/2$, and

$\Pr[X = x, Y = y] = \Pr[X = x, Z = z] = \Pr[Y = y, Z = z] = 1/4 \Rightarrow$ **pairwise independence**

But, $\Pr[X = 0, Y = 0, Z = 1] = 0 \neq 1/8 = \Pr[X = 0] \cdot \Pr[Y = 0] \cdot \Pr[Z = 1] \Rightarrow$ **not jointly independent**

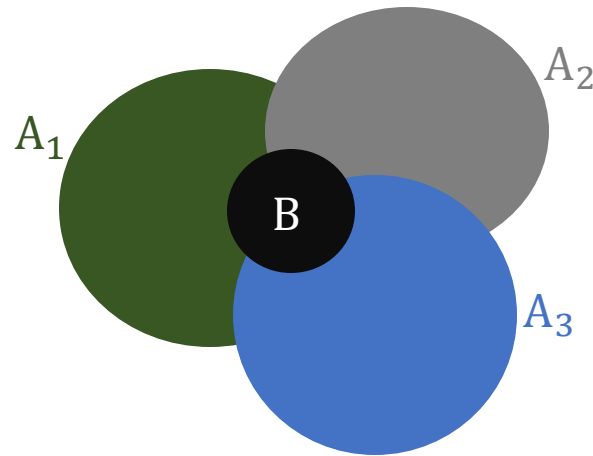
Law of Total Probability

If we have events A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n that partition the sample space Ω (i.e., Ω is a disjoint union of these sets), and let B be any event, then

$$\Pr[B] = \sum_{i=1}^n \Pr[B \cap A_i]$$

EXAMPLE:

$$\Omega = A_1 \sqcup A_2 \sqcup A_3$$



Conditional Probability

Definition 6

Probability of an event **A conditioned on event B** (with $\Pr[B] \neq 0$) is defined as

$$\Pr[A|B] = \frac{\Pr[A \cap B]}{\Pr[B]}$$

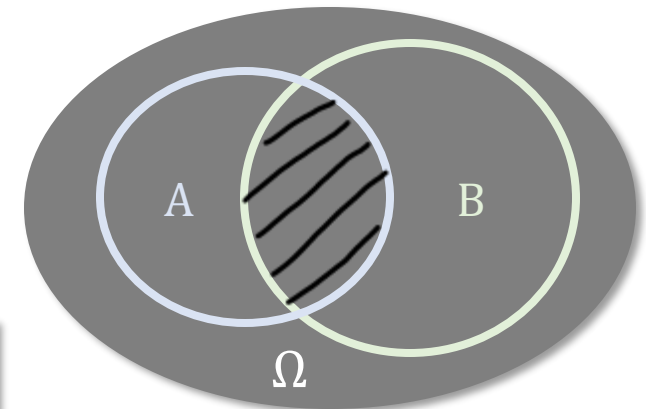
Conditioning on B means you are now considering B as the sample space instead of Ω .

Bayes' Rule

$$\Pr[A|B] = \frac{\Pr[B|A] \Pr[A]}{\Pr[B]}$$

Chain Rule

$$\Pr[A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n] = \Pr[A_1] \Pr[A_2|A_1] \dots \Pr[A_n|A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_{n-1}]$$



Expectation

Definition 7

For a discrete real-valued random variable X taking possible values $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$, the **expectation** is defined as

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n \Pr[X = x_i] \cdot x_i$$



“average” value that X will take

Example 4: Expectation of a coin toss

$$X = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if a fair coin lands H} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 0 = \frac{1}{2}$$

Properties of Expectation

Linearity of Expectation

Given random variables X_1, \dots, X_n and $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, we have

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i] = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_i]$$

****Holds even if the X_i 's are not independent!**

Example 4: Coin tosses

$X_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if the } i^{\text{th}} \text{ fair coin lands H} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ and let $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i] = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_i] = \frac{n}{2}$$



Multiplicativity of Expectation under independence

For independent random variables X and Y
 $\mathbb{E}[XY] = \mathbb{E}[X] \cdot \mathbb{E}[Y]$

HW: Prove this by expanding the right side of the equation and using the independence.

Variance

Definition 8

For a discrete real-valued random variable X the **variance** is defined as

$$\mathbf{Var}[X] = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^2] = \mathbb{E}[X^2] - \mathbb{E}[X]^2$$



Variance measures how far the random variable deviates from its expectation

Linearity of variance under pairwise independence

Given random variables X_1, \dots, X_n that are pairwise independent

$$\mathbf{Var}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i] = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{Var}[X_i]$$



HW: Prove this using
properties of
expectation!

CONCENTRATION INEQUALITIES

Union Bound

For events $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n \subseteq \Omega$,

$$\Pr \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i \right] \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \Pr[A_i]$$

Proof

For $A_1, A_2 \subseteq \Omega$

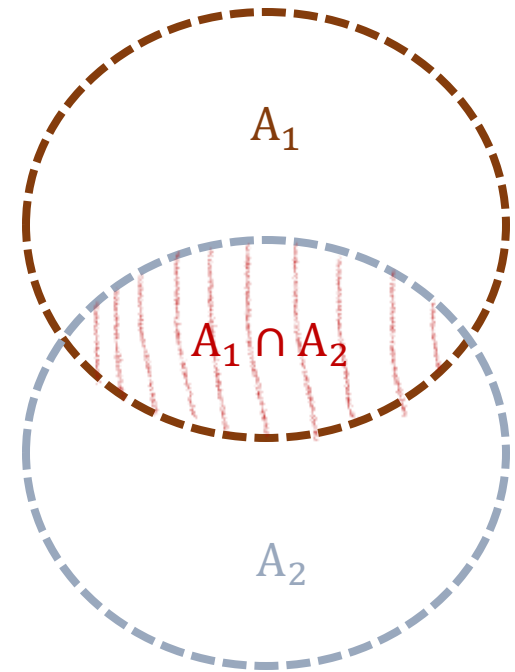
$$\Pr[A_1 \cup A_2] = \Pr[A_1] + \Pr[A_2] - \Pr[A_1 \cap A_2]$$

In particular

$$\Rightarrow \Pr[A_1 \cup A_2] \leq \Pr[A_1] + \Pr[A_2]$$

∴ By induction, for $A_1, \dots, A_n \subseteq \Omega$

$$\Pr \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i \right] \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \Pr[A_i]$$



Inclusion-exclusion
Principle

Markov's Inequality

For a discrete random variable X taking non-negative values in the set S , and for any $\alpha > 0$,

$$\Pr[X \geq \alpha] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{\alpha}$$

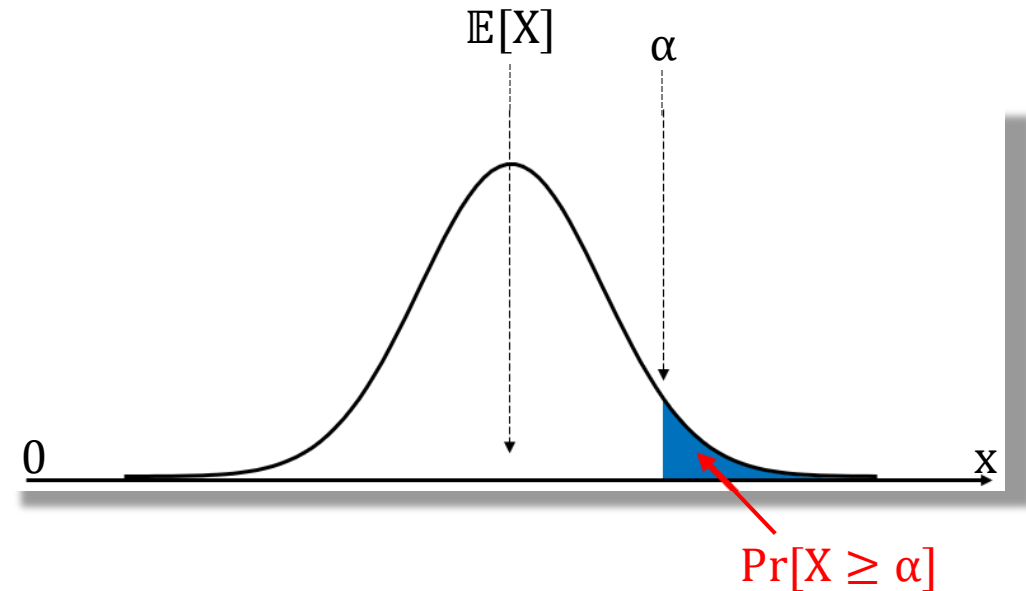
Proof:

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{x \in S} x \cdot \Pr[X=x]$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{x \in S \\ x < \alpha}} x \cdot \Pr[X=x] + \sum_{\substack{x \in S \\ x \geq \alpha}} x \cdot \Pr[X=x]$$

$$\geq \sum_{\substack{x \in S \\ x \geq \alpha}} x \cdot \Pr[X=x]$$

$$\geq \sum_{\substack{x \in S \\ x \geq \alpha}} \alpha \cdot \Pr[X=x] = \alpha \cdot \Pr[X \geq \alpha]$$



Chebyshev's Inequality

For a discrete random variable X with variance $\sigma^2 > 0$, and for all real $\alpha > 0$

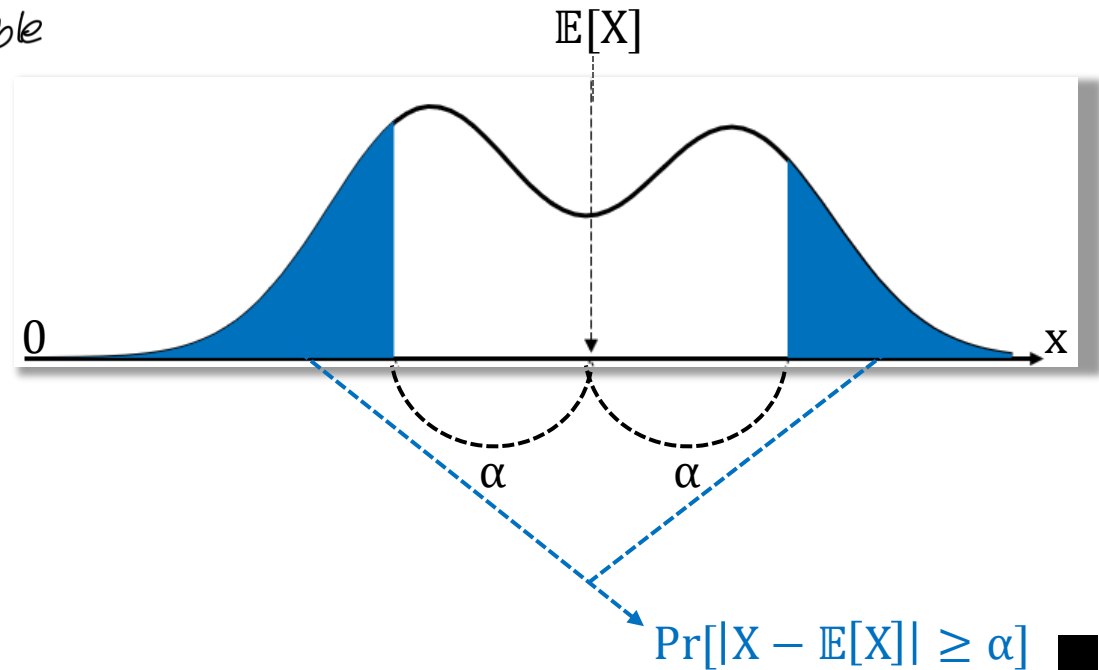
$$\Pr[|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq \alpha] \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{\alpha^2}$$

Proof:

% $(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^2$ is non-negative random variable
by Markov's inequality

$$\Pr[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^2 \geq \alpha^2] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^2]}{\alpha^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Pr[|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq \alpha] \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{\alpha^2}$$



Chernoff Bounds

Suppose X_1, \dots, X_n are independent random variables taking values in $\{0,1\}$. For any $\alpha > 0$

- $\Pr[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i > (1 + \alpha)\mathbb{E}[X]] < e^{-\alpha^2\mathbb{E}[X]/3}$, for $0 < \alpha \leq 1$
- $\Pr[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i > (1 + \alpha)\mathbb{E}[X]] < e^{-\alpha\mathbb{E}[X]/3}$, for $\alpha > 1$
- $\Pr[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i < (1 - \alpha)\mathbb{E}[X]] < e^{-\alpha^2\mathbb{E}[X]/2}$, for $0 < \alpha < 1$



Tighter bounds making use of joint independence!

MISC

(We'll need these later.)

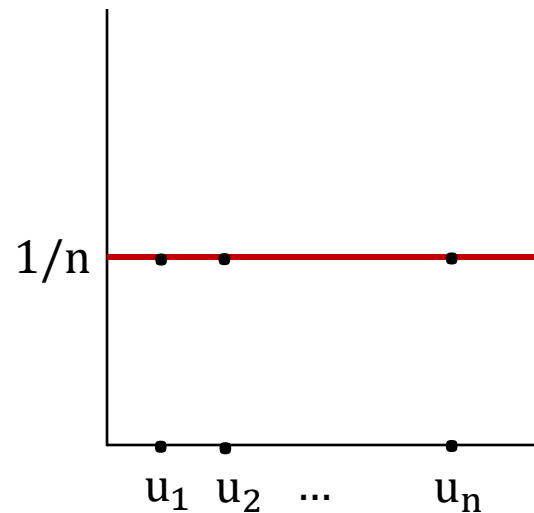
Uniform Random Variable

Definition 9

X is a **uniform random variable** over a set S , if,

$$\forall u \in S, \Pr[X = u] = 1/|S|$$

(denote the distribution by U_S , and picking an element under uniform distribution by $u \in_R S$)



$$S = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$$

XOR and its Properties

XOR of two strings in $\{0,1\}^n$ is their bit-wise addition modulo 2.

X	Y	$X \oplus Y$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

XOR of bits

0	1	1	0	1	1	1
1	0	1	1	0	1	0
<hr/>						
1	1	0	1	1	0	1

Example

Theorem 1

Let Y be a random variable over $\{0,1\}^n$ and X be an independent uniform random variable over $\{0,1\}^n$.

Then $Z = X \oplus Y$ is a uniform random variable on $\{0,1\}^n$.

HW: Prove this
(Hint: use induction)

Birthday Paradox

Let q birthdays be y_1, y_2, \dots, y_q chosen uniformly at random from $\{1, 2, \dots, 365\}$

*assuming non-leap year and that birthdays are uniform and independent

Problem: Find minimal q such that $\text{coll}(q, 365) = \Pr[\exists i \neq j \text{ s.t. } y_i = y_j] \geq 1/2$

23



INTUITION:

comparisons with 23 people in the room
 $= 22 + 21 + 20 + \dots + 1$
 $= 253$

$\Pr[\text{None of these 253 comparisons match}]$
 $= \left(\frac{364}{365}\right)^{253} = 49.95\%$

↳ probability one single comparison not matching.

$\Rightarrow \Pr[\text{At least 1 pair matches}] = 50.05\%$

HW: Solve for q by
using the same
argument with
unknown q

Birthday Paradox, Generalized

Theorem 2

Let q elements be y_1, y_2, \dots, y_q be chosen uniformly and independently at random from a set of size N , then

$$\text{coll}(q, N) = \Pr[\exists i \neq j \text{ s.t. } y_i = y_j] \leq \frac{q^2}{2N}$$

Theorem 3

Let $q \leq \sqrt{2N}$ elements be y_1, y_2, \dots, y_q be chosen uniformly and independently at random from a set of size N , then

$$\text{coll}(q, N) = \Pr[\exists i \neq j \text{ s.t. } y_i = y_j] \geq \frac{q(q-1)}{4N}$$

Assignment
Problems



Next Lecture

- Perfect security for shared-key/symmetric encryption
- Example: one-time pad or Vernam cipher
- Limitations of perfect security and some attacks

Thank you!

